



AF 3661

[10191/1431]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

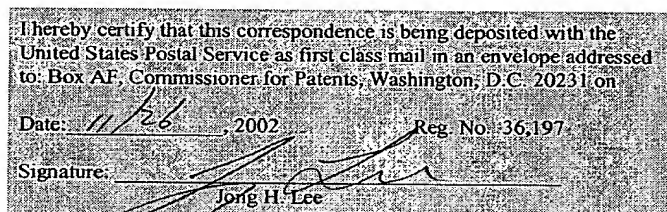
Applicant(s) : Thorsten OTT et al.
Serial No. : 09/586,214
Filed : June 2, 2000
For : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR CONTROLLING VEHICLE
SPEED DURING DESCENT
Art Unit : 3661
Examiner : Olga Hernandez

#17/Amtd
D. Lee
Dentley
12/31/02**RECEIVED**

DEC 04 2002

GROUP 3600

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDMENT AFTER A FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

SIR:

This paper addresses the Office Action dated September 20, 2002. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the amendments and remarks below. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested since they comply with the Examiner's request, raise no new issues, and put the claims in condition for allowance.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend without prejudice Claims 3 to 5, 9 and 10 as follows.

3. (Once Amended) A method for controlling a vehicle, comprising the steps of:

- D1
- determining an actual speed of the vehicle;
 - predefining a setpoint speed;
 - detecting whether the vehicle is traveling on a descent;
 - calculating at least one manipulated variable based on the actual speed and the setpoint speed only when the vehicle is detected as traveling on the descent;